

## **STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC IMPACT TO SMALL BUSINESSES**

**1. Name of Board, Committee or Council:** Board of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors

**2. Rulemaking hearing date:** December 20, 2006

**3. Types of small businesses that will be directly affected by the proposed rules:**

- (a) Alcohol and drug abuse counselors who are licensed in another state and are seeking licensure in Tennessee with the intent to practice as a sole proprietor, or as a member of a partnership or limited liability company, or as a member of a professional corporation; and
- (b) Continuing education course providers who are not permanently approved by current Board rules and who seek Board approval for their courses.

**4. Types of small businesses that will bear the cost of the proposed rules:**

Continuing education course providers who are not permanently approved by current Board rules and who seek Board approval for their courses.

**5. Types of small businesses that will directly benefit from the proposed rules:**

Alcohol and drug abuse counselors who are licensed in another state and are seeking licensure in Tennessee with the intent to practice as a sole proprietor, or as a member of a partnership or limited liability company, or as a member of a professional corporation; and

**6. Description of how small business will be adversely impacted by the proposed rules:**

Some continuing education course providers will have to develop and plan their courses further in advance of the course offering date than what is presently done.

**7. Alternatives to the proposed rule that will accomplish the same objectives but are less burdensome, and why they are not being proposed:**

The Board does not believe there are less burdensome alternatives to the proposed rule amendments because the proposed easing of reciprocity licensure requirements is the less burdensome alternative.

Additionally, before a licensee spends time and money to take a continuing education course, the Board believes the licensee is entitled to know that the Board has reviewed and approved the course. This cannot be accomplished when the Board is not given enough time in advance of the course to conduct a proper review, and obviously cannot be accomplished if the Board is requested to retroactively review and approve a course.

**8. Comparison of the proposed rule with federal or state counterparts:**

**Federal:** The Board is not aware of any federal counterparts.

**State:** The proposed rule amendments are similar to current or proposed state rules for most of the health-related licensing boards, committees, and councils.